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SUBJECT: OSCE/PERMANENT COUNCIL: RESPONSE CROATIAN
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. GORDAN JANDROKOVIC

¶1. (U) Post is authorized to present the following statement
at the November 5, 2009 Permanent Council meeting in Vienna.

Begin text:

Thank you, Madam Chair.

The United States welcomes Minister Jandrokovic to the
Permanent Council and thanks him for his insightful and
informative remarks.

We share your view that the Corfu Process has provided a
constructive framework for discussions about European
Security. We believe that this dialogue should continue to be
anchored firmly in the OSCE and should embody the
comprehensive concept of security. The Corfu meetings have
helped us examine how we can fully utilize the tools we have
at our disposal, ensure implementation of our commitments,
and consider how we might increase the OSCE's effectiveness
in conflict prevention and resolution. We look forward to the
continuation of this process up to and beyond the Athens
ministerial.

Regarding the OSCE Office in Zagreb and its mandated tasks,
Croatia has made great strides in resolving these issues. We
welcome the acknowledgement by the Office of this progress,
as shown in its recent status report. And, given how close
both portions of the Office's mandate are to completion, we
agree intensive monitoring is no longer required.

Nevertheless, we can agree that the Office should continue
operating in 2010 to ensure the completion of its mandate.
The United States, particularly through our Embassy in
Zagreb, is committed to supporting efforts by the government
of Croatia to create improved conditions for sustainability
of returns, as well as for the efficient and
non-discriminatory application of war crimes laws.

Croatia's progress on reforms and toward Euro-Atlantic
integration continues to be impressive, and we congratulate
you on the November 4 signing of the arbitration agreement by
the Prime Ministers of Croatia and Slovenia. Croatia has
consistently played a positive role in regional issues and
cooperation. Mr. Minister, the U.S. looks forward to a
continuing close and productive relationship with you and
your government, and we thank you for your visit here today.

Thank you, Madam Chair.
CLINTON